

REMARKS

Claim Amendment

The subject matter of Claims 94-104 has been incorporated into Claims 53, 55, 59, 67, 72, 75, 77, 80, 82, 84 and 88, respectively. Consequently, Claims 94-104 are canceled.

Applicants reserve the rights to file one or more continuation applications to pursue the previous version of Claims 53, 55, 59, 67, 72, 75, 77, 80, 82, 84 and 88.

No new matter is introduced in the amendment. The Examiner is requested to enter the amendment and reconsider the application.

The Response

Claims 53-54, 59-66 and 88 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as allegedly being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,018,383 (Dunn, *et al*) in view of US Patent No. 6,537,459 (Dufresne *et al*).

Claims 55-58, 67 and 69-93 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Dunn et al* in view of *Dufresne et al* as applied to Claims 53-54, 59-66 and 88 and further in view of US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0029969 (Yager *et al*).

Applicants note with appreciation that Claims 94-104 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants do not agree with the 103 (a) rejections, and believe that the non-amended pending claims are patentable over the cited references. However, in order to expedite allowance of the present application, Applicants have now incorporated the allowable subject matter of Claims 94-104 into the independent Claims 53, 55, 59, 67, 72, 75, 77, 80, 82, 84 and 88, respectively.

Therefore, the 103 (a) rejections of Claims 53-67 and 69-93 should be withdrawn in view of the claim amendment.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the application is now in good and proper condition for allowance. Early notification of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 7, 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Viola T. Kung', is written over a horizontal line.

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